

Minutes for the steering committee meeting of ESREA

When: March 15 13.00 to March 16 16.00 2009

Where: Milan, Italy

Attending: Michal Bron Jr. (Sweden), Wolfgang Jütte (Austria), Ewa Kurantowicz (Poland), Barbara Merrill (United Kingdom), Anja Heikkinen (Finland), Laura Formenti (Italy), Georgios Zarifis (Greece), Henning Salling Olesen (Denmark), Emilio Lucio-Villegas (Spain), Bernhard Schmidt-Hertha (Germany), Paula Guimaeres (Portugal) Secretary: Andreas Fejes (Sweden)

1. Election of the chair for the meeting

Henning was elected to chair the meeting.

2. Election of the secretary for the meeting

Andreas was elected to be the secretary of the meeting.

3. Election of someone to check the minutes

Georgios was elected to check the minutes.

4. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of the book proposal from Laura Formenti and Linden West.

5. Approval of the minutes from the last meeting

The minutes from the former meeting was approved.

6. Absence from the meeting

Larissa didn't have the possibility to attend the meeting. She sends her regrets.

7. Annual financial account 2008

Andreas informed about the financial account. The account was approved. In the future, the final account will be complemented with the budget for the same year, thus giving a better overview.

8. Budget for 2009

The budget was approved according to the appendix.

9. ESREA Journal

Decision on publisher of the journal

The offer to host the journal from Linköping University electronic press and DIE were discussed. The SC was very positive towards the 2 offers. However, due to the fact that Linköping Electronic Press offer their services for free their offer was accepted.

However, the steering committee was very positive towards DIEs interest in a closer collaboration with ESREA. It was decided to explore other possible collaborations in the future.

Decision about editors of the journal

It was decided to elect the following persons as part of the editorial group:

Andreas Fejes
Wolfgang Jutte
Ewa Kurantowicz
Katherine Nicoll
Henning Salling Olesen
Danny Wildemeerch

These persons are elected for a period of four years. After these years, the journal will be evaluated by ESREA and a new election of editors will be conducted (which can include both “old” and new members of the editorial group. Further, it was decided to leave one space vacant in the group, which can be added further on by a committed candidate from other regions than those already represented through the election conducted.

The editors will be asked to sign a term of reference with ESREA concerning their responsibilities and commitments.

The editors are asked to deliver a proposal stating the aim of the journal, including descriptions of editorial procedures, language policy, guidelines for submissions etc, no later than three weeks before the next steering committee meeting. However, they are encouraged to deliver this as soon as possible.

Editorial advisory board

The selections criteria’s for electing members of the advisory board of the journal was discussed. The following criteria’s were decided upon:

- Geographical representation
- Research areas/discourses

Based on the list of interested persons committed to be part of the advisory board, it was decided to elect the following persons according to the criteria’s above:

- Luc Bogaerts
- Michal Bron
- Rob Evans
- Maria Gravani
- Paula Guimarães
- Stefan Hummelsheim
- Larissa Jögi
- Francoise Laot
- Emilio Lucio-Villegas
- Barbara Merrill
- Bernhard Schmidt-Hertha
- Käthe Schneider
- Georgios Zarifis
- Vaiva Zuzeviciute

The board will be broadened by adding members representing other regions than already represented. Members of the steering committee are encouraged to suggest further people for inclusion in the advisory board.

The elected members of the advisory board will be asked to sign a terms of reference stating their responsibilities and commitment.

10. Peter Lang books

Andreas informed about Peter Lang changing their printing of books from soft cover to hardcover. The subsidy for ESREA and the price for buyers of the books will decrease.

The cross-cultural influences in the history of adult education manuscript was returned to the editors for final formatting.

The book on access and learning careers by Barbara will be delivered to the publisher in April.

The book on active democratic citizenship by Paula, Michal and Rui will be delivered to the publisher in April.

The book on work and learning by Henning and Keith is still to be completed. It might be able to be published at the end of this year.

The proposal for new book titled “Between global and local: Adult Learning and Development” was discussed. Henning provided feedback on the proposal in his role as one of the series editor. His comments concerned a suggestion to sharpen the focus of the book, and of cutting down the number of chapters. Suggestions were also made to change the title to make it more focused within the field adult education. With these suggestions, the proposal was accepted.

The proposal for the book on Life history and biographical research was discussed. Comments were made about the dominance of UK authors. It was decided that the proposal needs to be revised and then re-submitted to the Steering Committee.

It was decided that a task force, consisting of Michal (convenor), Bernhard and Emilio, will review ESREAs publishing policy. At the next meeting they will present three-four options of how to proceed/change publications of the books. This due to the fact that ESREA have an increase in number of networks, thus the number of proposed books will increase, at the same time as the books published by Peter Lang doesn't have high sales rates due to the fact that they are too expensive. Further, the relation between the new journal and the publishing of the books needs to be clarified. The network convenors should be involved in these discussions.

11. ESREA 2010 triennial conference

The report was approved with the following comments:

For the next meeting a budget should be presented. It is important to keep the participation fees as low as possible.

The scientific committee for the conference was elected consisting of:

Professor Lars-Owe Dahlgren, Linköping University

Professor Per-Erik Ellström, Linköping University

Associate Professor Andreas Fejes, Secretary of ESREA

Professor Ewa Kurantowicz, University of Lower Silesia, AAE
Associate Professor Ann-Marie Laginder, Linköping University
Professor Staffan Larsson, Linköping University
Professor Titular Emilio Lucio-Villegas, University of Seville
Reader Barbara Merrill, University of Warwick
Professor Henning Salling Olesen, Roskilde University
Professor Danny Wildemeersch, University of Leuven

12. ESREA action plan 2009-2010

The draft was discussed and decided accordingly with the following additions/changes:

Strategy analysis - Wolfgang will create a sheet with questions concerning the state of adult education research within national arenas, and then compile a material for discussion at the next meeting. Thus, we have a starting point for discussion of the role of ESREA in the future.

13. Outreach work

Anja reported from a conference in South Korea in late October where she represented ESREA. The theme concerned Asia and Europe in dialogue and ESREA was a co-sponsor of the conference. Anja gave a speech about ESREA and the ESREA logo was displayed at the conference by the organizers. There was a discussion about some collaboration concerning publication and to open up the conferences mutually to each other.

It was decided that we should take different approaches towards outreach work in relation to Europe and to other countries. ESREA can accept the role of being a formal organization in relation to other continents. We can also participate at occasions (within and outside of Europe) when organizations are invited to provide views on issues, but ESREA should normally not participate as a partner in conducting specific projects.

14. Socrates-Erasmus programme

Georgios initiated a discussion about the Socrates-Erasmus programme and proposed to write bilateral agreements between the universities of the steering committee members as a way to strengthen our cooperation and mobility among teachers/staff and students.

15. Information from the different networks

The policy network has been established. There will be an informal meeting in September at the ECER conference which will then be followed up by a first conference of the network.

Bernard made a short presentation of the network "Education and learning activities of older adults". He asked the SC permission to inform ESREA members of the existence of this network and to ask who would wish to join the network. It was decided to approve of the network.

Anja informed that the network on "History of education" was definitely established and it is already working.

Georgios did a brief report of the work achieved up until now in the "Adult educator" network as well as on the seminar the network is organising to be held on November this year. He mentioned the structure of the seminar, the funding, the participants, proceedings

that will be on a CD-Rom, divulgation of the seminar and assessment that will be made to the seminar. SC members have good expectations on this seminar meeting. George approached the language policy issue on the designation of his network. SC members decided that the designation existing will remain.

Barbara reported on activities held in the “Access and learning careers” network, namely in the seminar held in Seville, last December. A large number of participants joined, even if some drop out at the last moment namely Phd students that did not get funding to join the seminar. A book with contributions presented in this seminar is going to be prepared with the help of Pepe Monteagudo, from the University of Seville. Next seminar of this network will be held in 2010.

Laura reported on the “Life history” network seminar held in Milan. There is a CD with papers presented in this meeting. Some comments were made on the work the network is doing at the moment. Laura was elected by the all SC members as a convenor of the “Life history” network. It was mentioned that the name of Laura will have to be on ESREA website the convenor of the network.

The “Global/Local” network is organising the next seminar that will be held in May in Magdeburg. Peter Alheit will be the key-note speaker.

The active democratic citizenship network will have its next meeting in Stockholm in June. 32 papers are expected, involving participants from many parts of the world (Europe, North America, South Africa, etc.). Fees will be 35 Euros for ESREA members and 95 Euros for non ESREA members.

The “Gender” network will organize its next seminar in October in Hull.

The “Work and learning” network will not have a seminar this year because of the intercontinental conference RWL6. Next meeting will probably be in 2010.

The migration, ethnicity network plans the first conference to be held in Sheffield, UK. Date not decided yet.

16. Any other business

Barbara said that she is joining the next meeting of the Studies in Adult Education board and asked if there were issues that were to be raised there. The SC didn't indicate any issue.

Bernard mentioned the cooperation with DIE and it was decided that ESREA is open to collaboration, namely the participation of ESREA members in DIE journals and in ERDI European conference.

Anja informed that the Finnish research association will celebrate its 70th anniversary in 2010 probably in December. A conference is being organised; it was mentioned that ESREA be represented at this conference.

2010 will also be the year of the 21st anniversary of SCUTREA. A conference will be held on the theme “Looking back to the past, looking at the future”. ESREA members are invited to join this event.

17. Next meeting

The next meeting will take place in Thessaloniki November 5 at 9.00 ending on November 6 at 12.00.

18. End of meeting

The meeting was ended at 16.00 on March 16. The steering committee wants to thank Laura for organizing the venue of the meeting.

Henning Salling Olesen
Chair

Andreas Fejes
Secretary

Georgios Zarifis
Check the minutes